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RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1953



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector
H. W. ELLIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1953.

Area (in acres)	3,777
Population 1921 (census)	13,511
„ 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,247
„ 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,390
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1921 (census)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,076
„ „ „ „ „ 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,827
„ „ „ „ „ 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,520
Rateable Value, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£92,798
Product of a penny rate, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£367

Live Births.

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	219	128	91	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	10	5	5	
					229	133	96	13.97

Stillbirths.

Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	8	3	5	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	
					10	4	6	0.61

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Deaths (all causes)	...	...	...	...	156	80	76	9.51

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil.	
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil.	nil.

Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births :

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	8.73

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil.



Rushden Urban District Council.

Members of the Health and Sanitary Committee :

COUNCILLOR W. BROWN (*Chairman*), COUNCILLORS A. H. BAILEY, C. G. FAULKNER, A. GREEN, R. R. GRIFFITHS, MRS. W. M. LEAN, MRS. G. MARRIOTT, MRS. A. U. MUXLOW, H. WARING.

COUNCILLOR A. A. ALLEBONE, J.P., Chairman of the Council, was an *ex-officio member*.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District.

School Medical Officer.

Secretary :

MISS J. PEARSON.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector :

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

B. HALL, M.S.I.A., Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.
July, 1954.

To The Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Rushden.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my sixth Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the area for the year 1953.

The vital statistics for the year under review were as follows. The birth rate, 13.97, showed an increase on the previous year when it was 12.30. The death rate, 9.51, showed a fall on the rate for 1952, which was 12.55. It is six years since a death was recorded under the heading of maternal mortality, which is very satisfactory. The infant mortality rate for the year was 8.73 per 1,000 live births. In the previous year it was 5.00. This rate over the period of the last three years has been maintained at a satisfactory low level.

Comparisons between the vital statistics for Rushden and England and Wales are given throughout the report. Table No. 7, page 31 gives a comprehensive list of vital statistics for Rushden and England and Wales.

In section B details of the health services for the area are given. From this it will be seen that Rushden is well provided for in this respect. Section C deals with the sanitary circumstances of the area and a short account of the water supply and its treatment is given. Available quantities are important in an area like this and a reference is made to the yield from the differing sources.

From the results of chemical analysis of final effluent at the sewage works, it will be seen that these works are operating efficiently. However, the works are overloaded and future proposals for these works to deal with the situation are given.

Section D gives an account of the housing progress and the building programme since the war. This has been a satisfactory one and as a result of this a start will be soon possible on slum clearance.

Section E deals with the inspection and supervision of food and from it will be seen that the situation in Rushden during the period was satisfactory. A reference is made to meat inspection and the good work carried out by the Inspectors in protecting the community from diseased meat.

The next section, F, is concerned with the prevalence and control over infectious diseases. With the exception of Measles and Dysentery, all other infectious diseases showed a satisfactory fall. It was interesting

to note that only one case of Whooping Cough was notified during the year. The Measles cases were part of an epidemic which occurred in December of the previous year. The Dysentery cases occurred in a Residential Nursery in the area but the situation was cleared up quickly.

The immunisation figures are satisfactory and the area has now been clear of a case of Diphtheria for eight years. It is pleasing to note the number of combined inoculations against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough carried out in the year. The vaccination figures are still disappointing although they have shown some improvement over the last few years.

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the help I have received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee during the year. I should also like to thank the Surveyor for information supplied for this report and his help throughout the year. I should also like to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere appreciation of the help and assistance I have received from Mr. Ellis, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and finally would like to record the clerical assistance received from Miss Pearson in compiling this report.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area. The Rushden Urban District covers an area of 3,777 acres. The density of population is 4.3 persons per acre and the housing factor is 2.9.

Population. The population figure in the Registrar General's returns for 1953 is 16,390, which shows an increase of 140 on the previous year. Births outnumbered deaths by 73 during the period. In the previous year there were four more deaths than births recorded.

Deaths. 156 deaths were recorded in 1953. This gives a death rate of 9.51 per 1,000 of the population. This shows a fall on the previous year when it was 12.55. It is the lowest recorded rate since 1930. The death rate for England and Wales for 1953 was 11.4. The following table shows a comparison between the death rates for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden for the period 1948 to 1953.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rushden</i>				<i>County England & Wales</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>
1947	200	103	97	12.95	12.43	12.00
1948	184	95	89	11.27	11.00	10.80
1949	221	112	109	13.46	12.07	11.70
1950	222	108	114	13.48	12.01	11.60
1951	218	120	98	13.44	12.13	12.50
1952	204	97	98	12.55	11.04	11.3
1953	156	80	76	9.51	11.51	11.4

Table No. 1, page 26 gives a classification of the causes of death and is in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. Death rates from certain selected causes are given in Table No. 2, page 27.

Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System caused 54% of the total deaths. Cancer was responsible for 18%, Tuberculosis (all forms), 1.9%, and Diseases of the Respiratory System 10%. The number of deaths from Cancer showed a considerable fall on the figures for the previous year.

Births. 229 births were registered during the year compared with 200 in 1952. The rate for the year was 13.97 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 12.30. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1953 was 15.5. A comparison between the birth rates for England and Wales, Administrative County and Rushden, for the period 1949 to 1953 is as follows :

Birth Rate, 1948-1953.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Rushden	13.34	13.79	12.26	12.30	13.97
Administrative County	16.19	15.71	15.57	15.5	16.16
England and Wales	16.7	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5

Stillbirths. Ten stillbirths occurred which equals a rate of 0.61 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 0.12 when two stillbirths were recorded. The rate for England and Wales for 1953 was 0.35. Table No. 5, page 29 gives the rates for stillbirths, illegitimate births and masculinity of birth over the period 1934 to 1953.

Illegitimate Births. Ten illegitimate births were recorded during the year. This gives a rate of 43.66 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 50.

Maternal Mortality. No deaths were recorded. It is six years since a death occurred under this heading.

Infant Mortality. Two infant deaths were recorded during the year. This gives an infant mortality rate of 8.73 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 5.00 when one infant death occurred. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for 1953 was 26.8. Table No. 4, page 28 gives the vital statistics for Rushden for the period 1898 to 1953. From this it will be seen that this is the third year in which the infant mortality rate has remained at a satisfactory low level.

The following table shows a comparison between the rates for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden for the period 1949 to 1953 :

Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births.					
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Rushden ...	13.69(3)	44.05(10)	5.02(1)	5.00(1)	8.73(2)
Administrative					
County ...	33.78	29.53	25.26	24.96	24.70
England and					
Wales ...	32	29.8	29.6	27.6	26.8

Neonatal Mortality. The two infant deaths that occurred came under the subdivision of the infant mortality rate as both deaths occurred within 28 days of independent existence. The neonatal rate is thus 8.73 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 5.00, when one death occurred. Table No. 3, page 27 gives the causes and age incidences of infant deaths. It is noted that the majority of infant deaths occur within the neonatal period and this subdivision has not shown the same satisfactory fall as has occurred in infants over 28 days.

Deaths under one month per 1,000 live births.					
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Rushden ...	13.69(3)	26.43(6)	5.02(1)	5.00(1)	8.73(2)

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Services. The Public Health Laboratories at Northampton and Kettering provide facilities for the examination of specimens in connection with infectious or communicable diseases. Samples of water, milk and ice-cream are also examined at the Northampton Laboratory. Since the new premises were opened at Northampton investigation of specimens in connection with virus infections can be carried out. The assistance and co-operation of Dr. Hoyle and Dr. Voss of Kettering was much appreciated during the year.

Diphtheria Antitoxin. The Oxford Regional Hospital Board are responsible for this supply, and although the demand for Antitoxin now is almost nil, stocks have to be kept in case of emergency. Supplies are kept at the following places :

Wellingborough Hospital
Northampton General Hospital
Rushden House Sanatorium
Rockingham Road, Kettering

Ambulance Service. The County Council are the authority responsible for this service. Arrangements are made by them with the Rushden District Ambulance Association. Three ambulances serve the area. The St. John Ambulance Brigade, Northampton, also by arrangement with the County Council, deal with cases of infectious diseases requiring removal to the Harborough Road Fever Hospital, Northampton.

Nursing in the Home—Home Helps. The County Council is responsible for these services. Home help service is a very valuable one and often will help to tide over a crisis in the family. Difficulty is found to find persons to do this work, especially in areas where female labour is in demand. Still even greater effort should be made to find persons willing to do this very fine work.

Treatment Centres and Clinics. An Infant Welfare Centre is held on Wednesday afternoons at the Wesleyan Church Rooms, Queen Street. Antenatal and Postnatal Clinics are held at the same place on Tuesday mornings.

Hospitals. The Oxford Regional Hospital Board is the responsible authority, and Northampton and Kettering General Hospitals serve the

area. Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton. The Hayway Hospital, Rushden, supplies facilities for out-patient departments, and consultants from Northampton and Kettering visit this hospital. A list of out-patient clinics held at the Hayway is as follows :

Gynaecological	...	1st and 3rd Monday morning
		2nd and 4th Tuesday morning
Medical	... ..	1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Monday afternoon
Surgical	... ..	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon
		2nd, 4th and 5th Friday morning
E.N.T.	... ..	2nd and 4th Wednesday morning
		1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday afternoon
Eyes	... ..	1st and 3rd Thursday morning
Orthoptist	... ..	Every Thursday morning and afternoon
Urological	... ..	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon
Physiotherapy	...	Monday afternoons
Psychiatric	... ..	Every Friday afternoon
Skin	... ..	2nd and 4th Saturday morning
Paediatric	... ..	Wednesday mornings

The Rushden House Sanatorium serves the area with regards to cases of Tuberculosis. Out-patient clinics are also held at this Sanatorium.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Persons in need of care and attention. Under section 47 of this act the Council is responsible for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No cases were removed under this act during the year. Usually every method is used to persuade such cases to go voluntarily and this act is only used as a last resort. A number of old folks were visited during the year. Often a problem arises when such persons are taken ill. Some difficulty may be experienced in getting them an immediate vacancy in a hospital for old folks or it may not be desirable to have them removed. Then the problem of getting persons to look after them, especially at night, arises. With the increased numbers in the older age groups the situation is not going to get easier and will require further consideration. Often these old people live in unsuitable or unfit premises. Suitable accommodation is required for them if they are to continue to live on their own. The placing of bungalows in a row is not always desirable and often it is a better plan to intersperse bungalows with three bedroomed houses, so that the old are mixed with the young. This helps to keep them in circulation with the rest of the community and often means the younger generation can help them in many ways.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. The Higham Ferrers and Rushden joint Water Board are responsible for the supply for the area.

Sources. *Sywell*—a reservoir with a capacity of 236,000,000 gallons when full. With silting of the bed this figure is most probably considerably reduced. This reservoir is fed by springs and the surrounding Catchment Area which covers about 1,747 acres. The yield from this source is about 330,000 gallons per day. In a dry season when the level of the reservoir is reduced, the yield falls, and considerably lower quantities of water may only be available from this source. The method of treatment adopted is filtration by means of three slow sand filters and the water is then chlorinated.

Wollaston—Hardwater Crossing. Water derived from wells sunk in the Nene River gravels. The yield from this source is approximately 250,000 gallons per day. River gravel wells, if over worked, tend to clog with a resultant fall in the yield of water. The Nene valley is rich in these wells and it is advisable to explore the area in the vicinity of the works for further wells to augment the supply, if necessary. The method of treatment is mechanical filtration and chlorination.

The *Wymington* works, which consist of four wells sunk in the Northampton sands at the outcrop of the Upper Lias Clay, are only used in case of emergency.

Quality of Water. A chemical analysis of a sample of water labelled “ Distribution area—Rushden ” was examined on 4th March, 1953. The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate that the water is fairly hard, slightly contaminated with organic matter, though free from Bacterial contamination and safe for drinking purposes.

Hardness. The chemical analysis showed the water to contain :

Calcium ...	...	...	10.2 parts per 100.000
Magnesium	...	...	1.2 parts per 100.000
Total Hardness	...	...	25.6 parts per 100.000
Permanent Hardness	...	...	13.2 parts per 100.000
Temporary Hardness	...	...	12.4 parts per 100.000

A water with a total hardness of over 30 parts per 100.000 should be softened.

Bacteriological examination of samples of water. 52 samples of water taken in the Rushden area were examined during the year. The results were as follows :

<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
46	2	2	2

Twenty-eight samples of water were taken at source and the results of these were as follows :

	<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Sywell ...	11	2	2
Wollaston ...	13		

The two unsatisfactory samples taken at Sywell were from the reservoir.

When suspicious or unsatisfactory samples were obtained, the situation was investigated. The results of samples for the year are satisfactory.

Water Consumption, Rushden. The total consumption for the year was 173,920,000 gallons. 141,992,000 gallons were used for domestic and municipal purposes and 31,928,000 gallons for trade purposes. The following table shows the daily consumption per head per day for domestic and municipal purposes and for trade over the period 1949 to 1953 :

			1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Domestic and Municipal							
Purposes	...	...	20·7	20·6	22·35	21·5	24·3
Trade Purposes	...	...	4·65	9·31	5·3	6·0	5·4
Total	...	...	25·35	29·91	27·65	27·5	29·7

Piped Supply. 5,384 houses in the area have a piped water supply. This figure shows an increase of 86 on last year. 93 houses are dependent on standpipes and 40 houses on piped water supply.

Number of Council houses connected to Town mains in 1953—70

Number of private houses connected to Town mains in 1953—16

The rainfall for the period 1949 to 1953 was :

			1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Rushden ...	...	...	18·51	25·31	27·80	25·01	18·64
Sywell ...	...	...	18·48	24·88	26·94	22·22	17·10

All works connected with the water undertakings are well maintained.

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage. Rushden has a modern sewage works situated on the outskirts of the town. The works are well screened and well maintained. The final effluent is discharged into a brook which runs into the River Nene. In considering a sewage works and its efficiency, first the type of crude sewage that enters the works, and secondly the final effluent as it leaves the works, must be considered. For this reason I give for comparative purposes chemical analysis of crude sewage and final effluent taken on 5th October, 1953, and examined on the following day.

The sample contained :	<i>Crude Sewage</i>		<i>Final effluent</i>	
	<i>Re-action P.H. 6.9</i>		<i>P.H. 6.5</i>	
	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>		<i>Parts per 100,000</i>	
Suspended Solids	95.5		4.9	
Chlorine	102.7		13.3	
Ammonia (Free or Saline) ...	16.80		0.114	
Ammonia (Albuminoid) ...	3.90		0.266	
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°C.	55.77		2.953	
Oxygen absorbed in 3 minutes	33.60		1.181	
Dissolved oxygen absorbed in 5 days at 65°F. (B.O.D.) ...	130.0		1.25	
Nitrates	<i>Nil</i>		4.05	
Tar Compounds	Absent		Absent	
Sulpheretted Hydrogen ...	Trace		Absent	
Thiocyanates	Absent		Absent	
Thiosulphates	Trace		Absent	

Crude Sewage. Microscopical Examination of Deposit. Mineral matter and organic debris.

Strength of Sewage. 436.5 (McGowan).

Results. This is a sample of very strong sewage.

Final effluent. Microscopical examination of deposit. Mineral matter and organic debris and some fungus.

Inference. The figure obtained for suspended solids is slightly above the limit recommended by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal (i.e., 3 parts per 100.000), whilst that of the dissolved oxygen absorbed in 5 days is within the recommended limit (i.e., 2 parts per 100.000). Nitri-fication appears to be satisfactory. This effluent is suitable for discharge into a river of average capacity but it is recommended that an attempt be made to reduce the amount of suspended matter.

From this it will be seen that the works are satisfactory but are, to a certain extent, overloaded. Proposals for the future include new sedimentation tanks, store water tanks and screening chambers. Sludge

drying system will have to be re-organised and sludge clearance mechanised.

In this area trade effluents give rise to considerable trouble at the sewage works especially with regards to amount of sludge formed. The strength of the crude sewage would point to trade effluents being the probable cause. It is recommended that trade effluents should be kept under observation and action taken where found necessary. The efficiency of the works depend upon the filter bed and life in the beds. Strong trade effluents, if not pre-treated could cause serious damage to these beds.

The following figures show the volume of sewage and storm water dealt with at the works during the year :

Total filtered	...	...	...	...	203,687,610 gallons
Total storm	...	...	...	...	42,382,729 „
Total filtered and storm	...	...	...	...	246,070,339 „
Daily average filters	...	...	...	...	558,048 „
Daily average storm	...	...	...	...	116,117 „
Maximum daily flow filtered	...	...	...	...	1,037,500 „
Maximum daily flow storm	...	...	...	...	1,694,135 „

The Court Estate. A sewage disposal scheme for draining 45 houses has been formulated for this estate. The work will consist of sedimentation tanks and small rotary percolating filter with humus tanks, the tanks to be de-sludged by the gulley emptier. The sewers to be laid in Newton Road and Avenue Road will form part of the more comprehensive sewerage scheme to be designed for the Court Estate.

Closet Accommodation. The situation remains the same as last year. Eight outlying houses are dependent on bucket latrines. All other houses have a water carriage system.

Disinfection. An account of the disinfection station was given in last year's annual report. This station has worked satisfactorily during the year. Work is also carried out for neighbouring authorities on request. Further details will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report concerning articles disinfected during the year. Disinfection of houses associated with cases of infectious diseases was carried out during the period.

Swimming Baths. The open air swimming pool run by the Council is maintained in a satisfactory manner. It is proposed to rearrange the present facilities during 1954. The water in the pool is kept in satisfactory condition by means of a filtration and chlorination plant. Eight samples taken for Bacteriological examination all proved satisfactory.

Moveable dwellings. The caravan site off the Bedford Road with accommodation for 60 caravans is maintained in a satisfactory manner. All the necessary amenities are provided and the site is well laid out.

Rats and Mice Damage by Pests Act, 1949. The Council employ a full-time rodent operator. Details of the work carried out during the year will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report.

Public Cleansing. A new refuse vehicle was brought into service during the year. Three vehicles for the collection of refuse are maintained by the Council. The tip is situated off the Bedford Road. Work at the tip has been mechanised by the use of a Chaseside shovel. This helps to keep the tip in good order, by sealing off the face daily. In the fly season the tip is sprayed and is also kept under observation by the rodent operator.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The building programme carried out by the Council during the year was satisfactory. Details of the work in this field was as follows :

Number of Council houses built during the year	...	70
Number under construction at end of year	...	126
Number of licences issued for private dwellings	...	39
Number of private houses completed	...	15
Number under construction at end of year	...	27
Number converted into flats	...	2

The building programme since the war is as follows :

Temporary non-traditional prefabricated bungalows	...	50
Permanent flats	...	50
Aged persons dwellings improved	...	4
Council Houses	...	414
Houses (private) including 1 war damaged	...	115
Conversion into flats	...	22
Police houses	...	7

The above programme since the war is satisfactory and has meant the re-housing of many young families from overcrowded or unsatisfactory conditions. I think that the time is now opportune for the Council to consider the building of some more bungalows for old persons. I hope that if this is done that the bungalows will be sited with Council houses built for young families.

Slum Clearance. A start on this important work should be possible in the future. The health of the community depends to a large extent on housing conditions and ill health and bad housing are very closely associated.

Housing Applications. Number of 'live' applicants (those who have completed the two year waiting period) on 31st December, 1953 :

...	...	...	...	...	155
Number of waiting applicants 1952 to 1953	...	...	...	...	322
TOTAL					477

It is thought that of the 322 'waiting' applicants that at least a hundred will later find accommodation for themselves or move out of the

district. With regards to the 'live' applicants, more than 50 of these are already tenants.

Many inspections were made on request, of housing conditions of applicants and reports submitted to the Housing Department. I appreciate very much the co-operation received from the Housing Committee with regards to cases presenting a health factor. Medical certificates supplied by the doctors in the area concerning cases were considered, and points allocated in relation to the severity of each case.

Further details concerning Housing will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises. Routine inspections of food premises were carried out by the Health Department during the year. Details of such inspections will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report. The value of such inspections is very considerable, and although propaganda and lectures on food hygiene help, the actual routine inspection of food premises is of first importance.

Milk Supply. The situation with regards to Rushden is satisfactory. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is the responsible authority for producers and their inspectors take samples from this source. The County Council as the licensing authority for pasteurisation plants, sample pasteurised milk. However, this does not take away from the Local Authority its responsibilities to the community to see that milk sold in the area is of satisfactory nature. In my opinion the situation can only be kept under constant observation by the taking of samples locally. Interchange of information between the County and this Authority takes place with regards to samples taken, but we are not informed of the results of samples taken by the Ministry inspectors.

138 milk samples were taken during the year. The results were as follows :

<i>Good</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Test invalid</i>
122	13	3

Keeping qualities. Phosphatase and Methylene tests.

Results :

<i>No. of samples taken</i>	<i>Test</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Test invalid</i>
66	Phosphatase	65	—	1
	Methylene Blue	61	4	1

From above it will be seen that the standard in Rushden is good.

Washed Milk Bottles and Churn Rinses.

Washed bottles :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
92	92	80	12

Churn rinses :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
6	6	4	2

Activity in this sphere increases yearly. 92 samples of rinses from washed bottles were taken compared with 89 in the previous year. Also the examination of rinses from churns was instituted during the period. All cases of unsatisfactory results were followed up and this often entails considerable investigations and advice concerning washing machines and use of detergents. The public should help in this campaign for cleaner milk by ensuring that the empty milk bottle returned daily is clean and not used for any other purpose.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream. There are 58 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream. This is five more than last year.

<i>No. Premises Registered</i>	<i>No. Hot-Mix Manufacturers</i>	<i>No. Cold-Mix Manufacturers</i>	<i>No. Selling Pre-packed</i>
58	2	3	53

58 samples of ice-cream were taken for examination during the year. The results were as follows :

<i>Total</i>	<i>Grade I</i>	<i>Grade II</i>	<i>Grade III</i>	<i>Grade IV</i>
58	50	6	1	1

These results are very satisfactory and comply with Ministry recommendations which say that at least 80% of samples taken should be in Grades I and II.

Livestock (Restrictions on Slaughtering) Order, 1940. As in previous years the Rushden Abattoir serves the area. All beasts slaughtered at this Abattoir were inspected and carcasses examined before being passed as fit for human consumption. It is interesting to note the list given in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report of the causes for condemning meat during the year. Meat inspection is skilled work and requires wide experience on the part of the inspectors. It is a silent service that the public know little of and yet the health of the community is protected daily by the work of these Inspectors.

Clean Food Drive. After the activities of 1952 when a series of lectures and film shows were given, 1953 was rather a quiet year. It is hoped to give a further series of talks and demonstrations on this important subject of Food Hygiene in the near future. Education would appear to be an important factor in contacting and preventing food poisoning. Ignorance is often the cause of an outbreak.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Smallpox. No cases occurred.

Vaccination. The vaccination figures for 1953 were :

	<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	1-4	5-14	15 and over	<i>Total</i>
Primary	69	12	13	8	102
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	17	17
				Total	119
The figures for the previous year were :					
Primary	47	4	8	10	69
Re-Vaccination	—	1	—	19	20
				Total	89

It is pleasing to note that again the vaccination figures show a slight increase. For the last few years there has been an increase in these figures annually. Unfortunately the numbers vaccinated are still far too low. The best age for primary vaccination is about the third month. There were 229 births in 1953 and of this number only 69 babies were vaccinated. This percentage is not satisfactory and parents should avail of the protection afforded by vaccination against such a serious disease as Smallpox.

Cerbro-spinal fever. No cases were notified.

Scarlet Fever. 13 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified compared with 28 in the previous year. Three cases were removed to hospital.

Diphtheria. The area has been free from this disease for a period of eight years.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. The following number of children in the different age groups completed a course of immunisation against Diphtheria during the year.

<i>Under 1</i>	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	<i>Total</i>	<i>Booster</i>
79	38	15	3	4	2	—	141	202

These figures do not include children immunised by private arrangement. An Immunisation Clinic is held at the Alfred Street Schools on the first Saturday of the month.

The combined innoculation Diphtheria-Pertussis is now widely used. This affords protection also against Whooping Cough.

The combined figures for the period were :

	<i>Under 1</i>	1-4	5-14	<i>Total</i>
Combined Diphtheria-Pertussis	61	58	—	119
Whooping Cough only	3	4	—	7

The combined Diphtheria-Pertussis figures are included in the figures for Diphtheria immunisation. This combined immunisation helps the campaign against Diphtheria in my opinion, because the younger generation of parents have had little experience of Diphtheria but know what a distressing complaint Whooping Cough is, especially in the young. Parents are very wise to avail of this double protection against these two infectious diseases.

The following table shows the number of children in Rushden who have completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1953 :

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31 December, 1953								
Age at 31:12:53 <i>i.e.</i> Born in Year ...	<i>Under</i> 1 1953	1 1952	2 1951	3 1950	4 1949	5 to 9 1944-1948	10 to 14 1939-1943	<i>Total</i> <i>under 15</i>
Number <i>Immunised</i>	12	113	123	160	121	1041	927	2497

Measles. 187 cases of Measles were notified. This was part of an outbreak which occurred in December 1952. The majority of cases were in January but ran on into the early months of 1953 with a slight peak in April. Table No. 9 gives age incidence of cases and Table No. 10 monthly incidence. There were no deaths from this cause. In the previous year there were 129 cases.

Whooping Cough. One case of Whooping Cough was notified compared with 17 in the previous year and 38 in 1951. This is very satisfactory.

Puerperal Pyrexia. One case occurred. In the previous year there was also one case.

Pneumonia. Seven cases were notified compared with 11 in the previous year. Seven deaths giving Pneumonia as the primary cause

were registered. In the previous year there were 12 deaths. Acute primary or Influenzal Pneumonia are notifiable diseases, but Pneumonia as a secondary complication of some other illness is not. Deaths attributed to Pneumonia usually fall in this class.

Influenza. No deaths were recorded from this cause. In the previous year there was one death.

Erysipelas. Three cases were notified compared with two in the previous year.

Poliomyelitis. No cases were notified. In the previous year there were two cases.

Tuberculosis. Twelve new cases were notified compared with 14 in the previous year. Eleven of the cases were of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (4 males, 7 females) and the one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred in a male. There were three deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year compared with ten in the previous year (8 Pulmonary). Table No. 8, page 31 gives information concerning age incidence and deaths from Tuberculosis. Nine cases were admitted to the Rushden Sanatorium during the year and ten cases discharged. The number of new cases of Tuberculosis (all forms) notified during the last thirteen years were as follows :

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
21	20	18	17	31	15	18	11	16	18	10	14	12

The mortality rate from Tuberculosis during the same period was :

1941-1953					
Year	Tuberculosis—all forms			Rate (<i>crude</i>) per 1,000 of population	
	Male	Female	Total	Rushden	County
1941	10	4	14	·79	·50
1942	4	4	8	·48	·49
1943	2	3	5	·32	·50
1944	4	7	11	·72	·62
1945	5	1	6	·43	·58
1946	7	3	10	·65	·45
1947	7	2	9	·58	·36
1948	4	2	6	·36	·42
1949	5	4	9	·54	·43
1950	1	2	3	·18	·30
1951	3	1	4	·24	·26
1952	8	2	10	·61	·25
1953	3	—	3	·18	·18

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis register on 31st December, 1953 was as follows :

Total Number 133		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	58	39	97
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	18	18	36

Tuberculosis After-Care Committee. This committee continued to carry out its good work during the year amongst sufferers from this disease. The amount of good done by such committees is very considerable.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under the Public Health Act, 1936, S.172.

Food poisoning. Two cases occurred compared with three in the previous year. The cases were in an elderly couple in the same household. No specific organism was found and it is probable that the outbreak was due to a staphylococcal toxin.

Dysentery. 15 cases of Dysentery were notified. There were no cases in the previous year. The majority of cases were in connection with a small outbreak which occurred in a residential nursery. Cases were Sonne Dysentery and varied from mild to fairly severe. In dealing with the outbreak it was interesting to note the possible different routes of transmission. Lavatory seats, handles, etc., would appear to play quite a part. The situation was cleared up in about a month, which is quite satisfactory. Repeated stool tests of all concerned were made and toddlers and infants found positive were sent to Harborough Road Hospital. Only one baby contracted dysentery and 9 toddlers. Nurses were sent home, family doctor and M.O.H. for area being notified.

SECTION G.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

There are 149 factories on the register. This is one more than last year. Table No. 11 gives details of inspections made and action taken during the year.

In factories where mechanical power is not used the provision with regards to cleanliness, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and numbers employed were satisfactory and no complaints were received.

Number of outworkers employed in the area—111.

No complaints were received concerning the carrying out of outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

Further details concerning this chapter will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report.

SECTION H.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE No. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2	5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus... ..	3	—	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	8	14
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	2	2
16. Diabetes	2	—	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	12	19
18. Coronary disease, angina	15	4	19
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	4	9
20. Other heart disease	15	18	33
21. Other circulatory disease	2	3	5
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	1	6	7
24. Bronchitis	3	5	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system... ..	1	—	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	2	—	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	3	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
34. All other accidents	2	—	2
35. Suicide	1	2	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	80	76	156

TABLE No. 2.

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES, 1929-1953.

Year	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Cancer		Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels		Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1929	—	—	12	0.85	21	1.49	39	2.76	9	0.64
1930	1	0.08	7	0.49	11	0.78	38	2.71	16	1.14
1931	—	—	10	0.70	17	1.18	47	3.29	23	1.61
1932	1	0.07	10	0.70	10	0.70	48	3.37	18	1.26
1933	2	0.13	14	0.97	20	1.39	53	3.69	9	0.62
1934	1	0.07	10	0.69	22	1.52	81	5.62	9	0.62
1935	6	0.41	5	0.34	16	1.09	51	3.50	12	0.82
1936	3	0.20	9	0.61	18	1.22	66	4.47	12	0.81
1937	—	—	4	0.26	21	1.41	68	4.56	10	0.67
1938	—	—	10	0.66	23	1.52	69	4.57	7	0.46
1939	1	0.06	11	0.70	23	1.46	57	3.63	9	0.57
1940	3	0.17	10	0.60	32	1.92	78	4.69	23	1.38
1941	1	0.06	13	0.52	32	1.81	79	4.48	26	1.47
1942	1	0.06	7	0.43	28	1.72	72	4.42	13	0.80
1943	—	—	5	0.32	32	2.00	51	3.29	20	1.29
1944	4	0.26	7	0.46	22	1.45	101	6.66	22	1.45
1945	2	0.14	4	0.28	24	1.76	101	7.17	9	0.63
1946	3	0.19	7	0.46	29	1.90	106	6.31	18	1.18
1947	1	0.06	8	0.51	15	0.97	115	7.44	17	1.10
1948	—	—	6	0.36	30	1.83	95	5.82	16	0.98
1949	2	0.12	7	0.42	31	1.88	123	7.49	23	1.40
1950	—	—	3	0.18	34	2.06	117	7.10	26	1.57
1951	1	0.06	3	0.18	26	1.60	93	5.73	24	1.47
1952	2	0.12	8	0.49	41	2.52	102	6.27	17	1.04
1953	—	—	3	0.18	28	1.70	85	5.18	16	0.97

TABLE No. 3.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR.

Causes of Death	Age in Weeks					Total
	—1	—2	—3	—4	5-52	
1. Congenital malformations...	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Diseases of Early Infancy						
Congenital debility and icterus.						
Premature Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	—	1
Others	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	—	—	—	1
4. Diseases of Digestive System	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diseases of Nervous System	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Infectious Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Overlaying	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Other violence	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. All Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	—	—	—	2

TABLE No. 4.

DEATH AND BIRTH RATES FOR 1899-1953.

Year	Estimated Population mid-year	Net Births		Net Deaths belonging to District			
		No.	Rate per 1,000	Under 1 year		At all Ages	
				No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
1899	12,245	463	37.8	49	105.8	145	11.8
1900	14,359	434	30.2	65	149.0	153	10.6
1901	12,453	424	33.6	46	108.4	123	9.7
1902	12,961	407	31.4	50	122.8	133	10.2
1903	13,337	404	30.2	37	91.5	139	10.4
1904	13,713	387	28.2	46	118.8	162	11.8
1905	14,089	328	23.2	36	109.7	119	8.4
1906	14,190	351	24.7	40	113.9	122	8.5
1907	14,816	315	21.2	25	79.3	131	8.1
1908	15,192	310	20.4	35	112.9	122	8.0
1909	15,817	284	17.9	31	109.1	130	8.2
1910	16,442	278	16.9	20	71.9	128	7.7
1911	13,377	281	21.0	29	103.2	130	9.7
1912	13,658	287	21.0	24	83.6	121	8.8
1913	13,752	237	17.2	19	80.1	118	8.7
1914	13,915	246	17.6	18	73.1	124	8.9
1915	13,787	277	19.9	30	108.3	145	10.5
1916	13,531*	256	17.3	15	58.5	138	10.1
1917	12,315*	200	14.5	12	60.0	123	9.9
	13,728†						
	14,722†						
1918	12,900*	158	12.7	8	43.2	129	10.0
	14,454†						
1919	13,850*	206	14.2	27	131.0	153	11.0
	14,428†						
1920	14,402	328	22.7	24	73.1	133	9.2
1921	13,720	273	19.8	22	80.5	147	10.7
1922	13,740	247	17.9	19	76.9	132	9.6
1923	13,790	243	17.6	12	49.3	131	9.4
1924	13,750	198	14.4	11	55.5	135	9.8
1925	13,780	211	15.3	13	61.6	138	10.0
1926	13,520	208	15.3	6	28.8	131	9.7
1927	13,550	174	12.8	10	57.4	139	10.2
1928	13,650	174	12.0	10	57.4	146	10.6
1929	14,020	174	12.4	9	51.7	127	9.0
1930	14,020	191	13.6	7	36.6	121	8.6
1931	14,280	161	11.3	8	49.7	154	10.8
1932	14,240	170	11.9	10	58.8	142	9.9
1933	14,370	168	11.7	7	47.6	159	11.1
1934	14,410	161	11.2	8	49.7	180	12.5
1935	14,550	176	12.1	15	85.2	155	10.7
1936	14,740	182	12.3	5	27.5	167	11.3
1937	14,890	191	12.9	6	31.4	155	10.4
1938	15,090	192	12.7	6	31.3	160	10.6
1939	15,690*	225	14.2	6	26.7	152	9.7
	15,200†						
1940	16,580	200	12.4	16	77.7	233	14.1
1941	17,600	193	10.9	11	54.1	185	10.5
1942	16,250	251	15.5	6	23.9	163	10.0
1943	15,490	281	18.1	8	28.4	172	11.1
1944	15,140	278	18.4	15	53.9	202	13.3
1945	14,070	282	20.0	14	49.6	176	12.6
1946	15,210	270	17.74	9	33.33	215	14.13
1947	15,440	308	19.94	8	25.97	200	12.95
1948	16,320	283	17.34	9	31.80	184	11.27
1949	16,410	219	13.34	3	13.69	221	13.46
1950	16,460	227	13.79	10	44.05	222	13.48
1951	16,220	199	12.26	1	5.02	218	13.44
1952	16,250	200	12.30	1	5.00	204	12.55
1953	16,390	229	13.97	2	8.73	156	9.51

(*) Estimated population for calculation of Birth Rates.

(†) Estimated population for calculation of Death Rates.

TABLE No. 5.

**COMPARISON OF STILLBIRTHS, ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS
AND MASCULINITY OF BIRTH.
1934-53.**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Stillbirths per 1,000.</i>		<i>Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births.</i>	<i>Male births per 1,000 live female births.</i>
	<i>Population of all ages.</i>	<i>Total births (live and still).</i>		
1934	0.55	47.32	49.69	1038
1935	0.76	58.83	39.77	934
1936	0.27	21.51	54.94	1166
1937	0.27	20.51	26.18	1010
1938	0.26	20.41	52.30	1087
1939	0.51	34.34	48.89	1008
1940	0.42	33.89	25.00	923
1941	0.51	44.54	56.99	1144
1942	0.31	19.54	75.70	1002
1943	0.89	47.45	53.46	1006
1944	0.55	32.05	133.09	1122
1945	0.21	20.83	95.74	1389
1946	0.39	21.73	55.55	1368
1947	0.38	25.47	32.46	1013
1948	0.61	34.12	42.40	1035
1949	0.12	9.04	36.52	1126
1950	0.30	21.55	30.83	1026
1951	0.18	14.85	35.17	809
1952	0.12	9.90	50.00	1000
1953	0.61	41.84	43.66	1385

TABLE No. 6.

**MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE.**

<i>Age Periods</i>			<i>Measles</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>	
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
— 6 months	...		—	—	—	—
—12 "	...		1	1	—	—
—18 "	...		6	5	—	—
— 2 years	...		6	7	—	—
—2½ "	...		9	10	—	1
— 3 "	...		1	3	—	—
— 4 "	...		15	13	—	—
— 5 "	...		17	20	—	—
—10 "	...		41	28	—	—
—15 "	...		—	—	—	—
15 "+	...		—	4	—	—
ALL AGES	...	...	96	91	—	1
TOTALS	...	...	187		1	

TABLE No. 7.

BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT AND ENGLAND AND WALES. 1953.

	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>Rushden</i>
<i>Births. Rates per 1,000 Home Population</i>		
Live Births... ..	15.5	13.97
Stillbirths	0.35	0.61
	22.4(a)	
<i>Deaths</i>		
All Causes	11.4	9.51
Typhoid	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.18
Influenza	0.16	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Acute Polio-myelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)... ..	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.55	0.42
<i>Notifications</i>		
Typhoid	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid	0.01	0.00
Meningococcol Infection	0.03	0.00
Scarlet fever	1.39	0.79
Whooping Cough	3.58	0.06
Diphtheria	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.18
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	12.36	11.40
Pneumonia	0.84	0.72
Acute Polio-myelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)—		
Paralytic	0.07	0.00
Non-Paralytic	0.04	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.24	0.12
Puerperal Pyrexia	18.23(a)	0.06
<i>Deaths. Rates per 1,000 Live Births</i>		
All causes under 1 year of age...	26.8(b)	8.73
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	0.00

(a) per 1,000 total (live and still) births

(b) per 1,000 related live births

TABLE No. 8.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1953.

<i>Age Periods</i>	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
—35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—45	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
—55	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	7	1	—	3	—	—	—

TABLE No. 9.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis). 1953.

<i>Disease</i>	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	2	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	3	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	7	—	7
Measles ...	2	24	23	28	37	69	2	—	1	1	—	—	187	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—
Dysentery ...	2	—	4	4	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	15	10	—
TOTALS ...	4	24	29	35	40	80	2	1	3	3	5	3	229	13	7

TABLE No. 10.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis). 1953.

DISEASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	4	1	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	13
Pneumonia ...	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Measles ...	93	5	29	51	5	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	187
Whooping cough	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Puerperal pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	15
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
TOTALS ...	99	13	32	55	7	2	1	1	2	2	15	—	229

TABLE NO. 11.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, for the year, 1953.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	141	56	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	3	1	—
TOTAL ...	149	60	6	Nil.

2.—Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	3	3	—	3	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	9	9	—	7	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing Apparel—						
Making, etc.	111	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	111	—	—	—	—	—

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the

Year 1953



H. W. ELLIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Department

STAFF, 1953

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

B. HALL, M.S.I.A.

Student Pupil :

Post Vacant.

Clerk and Shorthand Typist :

Miss E. A. Bettles (*Left 18th July, 1953*)

Miss A. Clark

Outside Staff :

W. West—*Disinfector and General Labourer*

R. Butler—*Rodent Operator*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
Council Buildings,
Rushden.

1953.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rushden Urban District Council

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the environmental circumstances of the district for the year 1953.

In the sphere of clean food handling this was a year of consolidation rather than launching new ventures and a point was made of completing programmes started two years ago. Routine visits, which at times become monotonous, are the greatest safeguard of clean food and public health, were faithfully carried out.

The caravan problem was settled in favour of the Council and the town is now served by one authorised site which can be quoted as an example of caravan living, properly serviced and in pleasant surroundings.

As a result of the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee Report on meat inspection, several improvements were made at the Abattoir and it is obvious that more responsibilities will devolve on local authorities and their officers when slaughtering is de-controlled in 1954.

The pattern of housing administration is also changing. Slum clearance work has started and as events develop re-conditioning schemes will have to be undertaken in place of the policy of keeping properties wind and watertight. This changeover will need careful consideration, necessitate the judicious use of housing legislation, and above all, a co-ordination of the committees and officers of the Council ; this is especially true of the Housing Act 1949, the significance of which is becoming clear to Council and public alike.

An excellent report by a Government working party on the Recruitment, Training and Qualifications of Sanitary Inspectors was issued in August 1953. This report can leave no doubt that drastic official action must be taken not only to stop the drift of sanitary inspectors away from the profession but to encourage recruitment to an already understaffed service.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, who have supported me throughout the year, to my staff, and especially to Dr. P. X. Bermingham, with whom it is a pleasure to work.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
your obedient servant,

H. W. ELLIS,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

PART I

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

The following tables indicate the extent of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

1. VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Houses—

Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	667
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
Drainage Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Rats and Mice Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	516
Insects Pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factories, with power	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Factories without power	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Swimming Pools	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shops Act, 1934	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Vacant Land and Dumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Interviews with Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Verminous Premises or Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Revisits to Premises Under Notice—P.H. Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	261
Work in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Meat and Foods—

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	496
Butchers' Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Grocers and Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Manf. or prep. of preserved food	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Restaurants and Dining Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Food Vans and Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public Markets and Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits <i>re</i> Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Milk Samples Taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Milk Bottles and Churn Rinses Sampled	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Water Samples Taken—Main	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water Samples Taken—Swimming Pools	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Interviews at Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	354
Telephone calls made	...	...	...	...	...	...	147
Telephone calls received	95
Ice-Cream Samples Taken	58

TOTAL VISITS AND INSPECTIONS	4,263
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Notices Served—

P.H. Acts (Informal)	90
P.H. Acts (Statutory)	6

Factories Act	4
Food and Drugs Act	1
Milk and Dairies Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 103 <hr/>

NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

Year ending December, 1953

Houses—

Roofs Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Walls (External) Repointed, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wall Plaster Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Floors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ceiling Plaster Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Windows Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cooking Ranges Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks or Wash Basins Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sink Waste Pipes Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rainwater Pipes Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Eaves Guttering Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Food Stores Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sashcords Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Doors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chimneys and Stacks Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Yards and Passages Paved or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rooms Cleansed and Redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Drainage—

Drains Cleared of Obstructions	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Drains Repaired or Reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Drains Connected to Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Inspection Chambers Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Vent Pipes or F.A.I.'s Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
New Gullies Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Cesspools Cleansed or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	187
New Cesspools Constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cesspools Abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Water Closets—

New W.C.'s Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
W.C. Compartments Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
W.C. Pedestals Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
W.C. Cisterns Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Pailclosets Abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Miscellaneous—

Dustbins—New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Offensive Accumulations Removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Verminous Premises Disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises Cleared—Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	121

Contraventions Remedied In—

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butcher's Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Premises Generally	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Factories and Workplaces	4
Bakehouses	2
Licensed Premises	1

TOTAL DEFECTS REMEDIED	<hr/> 825 <hr/>
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2. Drainage and Sanitation.

The scheme for sewerage part of the Court Estate is still being considered by the Ministry of Health and it is to be hoped that their deliberations will result in an early end to the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing in this area.

The inadequacy of the sewers in certain parts of the town is evident during periods of storm, but lack of actual services is a more important point. In every area of future possible development, the absence of sewers is a great handicap and there is a danger of creating areas of cess-pool drainage where new industrial sites are located. This situation is already developing in the Wellingborough Road-Sanders Lodge area.

The supervision of drainage works entailed 181 visits for the purpose of inspection or advice and tests were applied on seventy occasions. Four schemes warranted the submission of drainage plans.

Defective combined drainage schemes were found in the Glassbrook, Sartoris, Church and Wellingborough Roads.

Sketch plans and details of defects were supplied to the Surveyor who arranged for the execution of repairs in accordance with Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

3. Refuse Collection.

Whatever difficulties were encountered in the refuse collection service, the sufficiency of suitable dustbins raised no problem. Only twenty-nine dustbins were supplied as a result of notices during the year.

It was decided to adopt a modified scheme of municipal dustbin ownership which will be put into operation in 1954.

The council will be well advised to give consideration to the problem of disposal of leather bits, which, being a waste product of the staple industry, deserves special attention. The present method of merely burning it in the open is only tolerated by reason of the distance from the town, nevertheless, people living in Bedford Road are often burdened with these noxious fumes and visitors to Rushden entering the town from the south are not favourably impressed when the wind carries the distasteful smell in that direction.

A private tip which contained leather bits was accidentally ignited and caused a nuisance in the Wellingborough Road. In spite of efforts by the County Fire Brigade and action by the owners, it was several weeks before the fire was extinguished.

4. Disinfestations and Disinfections.

The alterations to the disinfecting station in Newton Road improved the method of working and the building is separated into clean and dirty sections. This ensures that articles and bedding do not become re-contaminated after treatment and is in conformity with recommended practice.

The arrangement to carry out this type of work for the neighbouring authority of Wellingborough has worked very smoothly and the revenue will help to offset the expenditure on improvements.

Five properties were treated for bed bug infestation during the year.

Disinfection Table

			<i>Rooms</i>	<i>Articles of Bedding</i>	<i>Articles of Clothing</i>
After cases of Tuberculosis ...	...		16	20	
After cases of Infectious Disease ...	...		20	81	
Private Requests ...	...	...	11	192	9
Wellingborough U.D.C. ...	...	...		283	17
Verminous Premises ...	...	...	5		2
Articles Destroyed ...	...	...		73	16
			52	649	44

Amount recoverable : £38/12/-

5. Rodent Control.

The rodent destruction service was maintained efficiently throughout the year. More complaints are received from the general public whenever rodents are discovered and the work of the operator is now appreciated by reason of results achieved. To gain some idea of these results, the Public Health Department has instituted a system of recording the estimated kill backed by a tally of the actual bodies picked up after treatments have been carried out.

The following figures, although representing only a quarter of the period under review, give an indication that estimated kill has some substantiation in fact.

Rats

Estimated kill—605

Bodies picked up—203

The town sewers were tested, baited and treated on two occasions.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1939

The following report for 1953 was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Agri- cultural</i>	<i>All other (including Business and Industrial)</i>	<i>Total</i>
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	27	5,354	16	940	6,337
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1953 as a result of (a) notification, or (b) survey.	(a) 2	122	1	21	146
	(b) 5	97	2	16	120
III. Number of properties found to be infested with rats ...	Major 3	3	2	2	10
	Minor 2	184	1	16	203
IV. Number of properties found to be seriously infested with mice	2	17	—	16	35
V. Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	7	204	3	34	248

Number of "Block" control schemes carried out—13.

6. Moveable Dwellings.

A great deal of time was devoted to the supervision of caravan sites during the year. Three months elapsed before the unauthorised site subject to a court order was finally cleared, and many visits were made to remind the owner of his obligations.

Another site in the Newton Road area, although holding a licence under the Public Health Acts, was refused permission under Town Planning and a public inquiry was held after the estate developers appealed against the decision.

The Ministry upheld the decision of the County Council and the site was cleared; the site was operated for nine months, during which time the Health Department, in conjunction with the developer, arranged for temporary sanitary accommodation and drainage systems.

7. Factories and Workshops.

There were 149 factories and workshops on the register at the end of December 1953. Once again, a special period was set aside for routine inspections, sixty inspections being carried out. Six written notices were sent to managements pointing out defects, two cases involving reconstruction of sanitary blocks. New sanitary blocks were constructed at four factories by voluntary action on the part of the managements.

Several nuisances arising from the burning of leather bits in factory furnaces were dealt with during the year.

The table showing inspections and defects remedied will be found on page 34 of the Medical Officer's report.

8. Rushden Fair—Spencer Park.

Inspection of the arrangements made by Messrs. Thurston for the annual fair was carried out by the Medical Officer and myself. The standard of hygiene in the food vans was satisfactory and no comments were necessary.

An improvement in the sanitary arrangements was suggested and adopted. Previously, the showpeople relied on the use of the public conveniences in the park, but this accommodation proved insufficient at peak periods when great crowds were attracted to the showground. It was suggested to Mr. Thurston that the Elsan compartments owned by each caravanner should be brought into use and that the Council offer the services of the cesspool emptier.

These arrangements proved a great success and will be adopted on future occasions.

9. Smoke Abatement.

The urban district is fortunate in being free from serious atmospheric pollution and activity was confined to complaints from small factory boilers. One firm was persuaded to install a chain-grate automatic stoker which completely eliminated a nuisance which had given trouble over a number of years.

The burning of leather bits in private houses is a more serious nuisance and beyond the control of the sanitary officer. The large amount of out-work carried out in private dwellings make this material available for burning, but if the public were made aware of the damage done to chimney brickwork apart from the nuisance created by this noxious smell, other methods might be considered for its ultimate disposal.

10. Pet Animals Act 1951.

Three premises were registered under this Act for the keeping of pet shops.

11. Swimming Pool.

Eight samples of water from the swimming pool were taken during the season. All results were satisfactory.

12. Cesspool Emptying.

The cesspool emptying service was used to good effect during the year. The following summary gives an indication of the work carried out.

Cesspools emptied within the Urban District	...	164
Cesspools emptied outside the Urban District	...	23
		<hr/>
Total	... ..	187
		<hr/>

In addition the machine was loaned to adjoining local authorities for 349 hours, and also, during May to the National Caravan Club Rally at Overstone for thirty-seven hours.

PART 2.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

1. Milk and Dairies.

The milk distribution business is now confined to ten traders compared with more than twenty in 1949. Not only is the number of purveyors declining but the majority of the milk is heat treated and the day of the producer-retailer is almost over ; two producer-retailers were on the register at the end of December 1953.

One of the two dairies operating pasteurising plants processed 17,000 pints per day, although quite a large proportion was sold out of the district.

It was these consignments, rather than the milk sold in the town, which caused the Public Health Department some concern, and after repeated complaints of sour milk and dirty bottles, the owner of the dairy was advised to adopt a system of milk testing with a view to rejecting unsatisfactory milk arriving at the dairy from the farms.

Six T.T., seven Pasteurised licences and one Sterilised licence were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936-49.

Examination of Milk

One hundred and thirty-eight samples were taken for examination by the prescribed tests carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton.

The results were highly satisfactory and the standard of cleanliness was maintained.

The analyses of the 1953 samples were as follows :

90.3% satisfactory

9.7% unsatisfactory.

Most of the unsatisfactory results were recorded during the summer months when overnight temperatures approached or exceeded 65°F.

Milk Samples

<i>Month</i>		<i>No. of samples taken</i>	<i>No. examined</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Test invalid</i>
January	...	12	12	12	—	—
February	...	11	11	11	—	—
March	...	11	11	10	—	1
April	...	12	12	12	—	—
May	...	11	11	8	2	1
June	...	12	12	8	4	—
July	...	12	12	10	1	1
August	...	12	12	10	2	—
September	...	12	12	10	2	—
October	...	11	11	11	—	—
November	...	11	11	11	—	—
December	...	11	11	9	2	—
Totals	...	138	138	122	13	3

Pasteurised Milk

Sixty-six samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the pre-scribed Phosphatase test, with the following results :

<i>Samples taken</i>	<i>Test</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Test invalid</i>
66	Phosphatase	65	—	1
	Methylene Blue	61	4	1

No sample failed the phosphatase test, indicating that all samples had been correctly heat treated. Four samples failed the Methylene Blue test and have been referred to in previous paragraphs.

Washed Milk Bottles and Churns

This section dealing with control over milk distribution has become almost as important as milk sampling, for more than 90% of the Town's milk supply is delivered in bottles. Regular sampling ensures that unsatisfactory conditions do not long go undiscovered, and the Department's activities were extended to include rinsings from washed milk churns.

Washed Milk Bottles					
Month		No. Samples taken	No. examined	Satisfactory	Unsatis- factory
January	...	8	8	8	—
February	...	8	8	8	—
March	...	8	8	5	3
April	...	8	8	8	—
May	...	8	8	6	2
June	...	8	8	7	1
July	...	8	8	6	2
August	...	8	8	7	1
September	...	7	7	7	—
October	...	7	7	5	2
November	...	7	7	7	—
December	...	7	7	6	1
TOTALS		92	92	80	12

Churn Rinses					
<i>Month</i>		<i>No. Samples Taken</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
October	...	4	4	2	2
November	...	2	2	2	—
TOTALS		6	6	4	2

2. Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream.

Locally made ice-cream became a rare commodity during the year. The profit to be shared by the many traders on the register, made the local product an uneconomical proposition, and the time is not far distant when only pre-packed ice-cream is offered for sale. One hot mix manufacturer reverted to the sale of a cold mix product.

The state of the register at the end of 1953 was as follows :

Hot mix manufacturers	...	...	1
Cold mix manufacturers	...	...	4
Sellers of bulk ice-cream	...	...	1
Sellers of pre-packed ice-cream	...	...	53
Total			59

There were ELEVEN brands on sale and it was possible to obtain a series of samples in ten cases.

Fifty-eight samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, and the following table shows the results to be well within the standard prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

Ice-Cream Samples					
MAY TO OCTOBER, 1953					
<i>Brands</i>	<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Grade 1 Good</i>	<i>Grade 2 Fairly Good</i>	<i>Grade 3 Bad</i>	<i>Grade 4 Very Bad</i>
A	7	7	—	—	—
B	7	7	—	—	—
C	6	2	3	1	—
D	6	6	—	—	—
E	6	5	1	—	—
F	8	6	2	—	—
G	5	5	—	—	—
H	2	2	—	—	—
I	5	4	—	—	1
J	6	6	—	—	—
K	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	58	50	6	1	1

Four samples of lollipops were also examined. One result was unsatisfactory and the matter was taken up with the manufacturer concerned.

3. Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The Food and Drugs Act was administered by carrying out routine inspections following the extensive lecture campaign of last year.

Two complaints involving the sale of unsound food from the same shop resulted in the trader appearing before the Food and Drugs Sub-Committee. He was warned that legal proceedings would be instituted if any further complaints were received.

Another trader remedied defects in a food shop after receiving a threat of legal action by the Council.

An instance of co-operation between local authorities occurred when members of a coach outing developed food poisoning at a point between Rushden and Blackpool. The officers of the two authorities exchanged information so that action could be taken to trace the cause of this outbreak.

A mobile fish shop made its appearance in the town, taking a regular stand outside a cinema. The van was inspected and the owner requested to carry out works to make it comply with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act.

The following notes show some of the action taken during the year.

GROCERS.

Forty-three visits were made and in seven cases works were required in accordance with Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938.

Sinks, drainage and water heaters were provided in three shops.

BUTCHERS

Two butchers' shops were completely re-constructed during the year and seventy-five routine visits were made.

LICENSED PREMISES

The sanitary accommodation was re-constructed at two public houses. This completes the programme of remedying major defects at this type of premises which was commenced three years ago.

DAIRIES.

Twenty-six visits were made to dairies and two notices were served requiring works to be carried out.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Important developments occurred in the field of meat inspection during 1953. The Government announced that the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee's report on meat inspection should be adopted by local authorities in February, and towards the end of the year it was proposed that control of slaughtering should be relinquished by the Meat and Livestock Division in July 1954.

Based on the Committee's report, a list of improvements needed at the Rushden Abattoir was presented to the Health Committee and although some of these matters received attention, the announcement of de-control caused some confusion and many items were left in abeyance.

The animals admitted for slaughter numbered 20,600, which created a record for the post war years. However, the reduction in the number of cows and the increase in the number of sheep and pigs counterbalanced the greater throughput and the weight of meat and offal condemned was actually reduced. The percentages of animals affected with tuberculosis remained substantially the same.

The incidence of *Cysticercus Bovis* decreased slightly and seventeen carcasses were despatched to the Northampton cold stores for treatment.

One hundred and ten visits were made to shops, warehouses and stores to inspect various foodstuffs, one ton of which was declared unfit for human consumption and destroyed or fed to animals.

The following tables indicate the extent of the work carried out.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<i>Bulls</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Steers</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number of animals slaughtered and inspected ...	31	910	873	792	1,042	10,272	6,680
TUBERCULOSIS							
1. Whole carcasses condemned	—	14	1	3	—	—	5
2. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ..	11	256	89	72	—	—	132
TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS	11	270	90	75	—	—	137
3. Percentage of animals inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	35.4%	29.6%	10.3%	9.4%	—	—	2.0%
4. General incidence Adult Bovine	17.1%						
OTHER DISEASES							
Specific disease other than T.B. causing condemnation of the whole carcass							
Emaciation	1	—	—	—	—	47	10
Fever-Acute	—	—	1	—	—	3	10
Immaturity	—	—	—	—	33	1	—
Gangrene	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Joint Ill	—	—	—	—	36	—	—
Mastitis (including septic) ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Moribund	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Peritonitis—septic	—	2	—	—	—	—	7
Pericarditis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia—including Gangrene	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyæmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicæmia	—	—	—	—	1	8	7
Swine Erysipelas—Acute ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uraemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metritis—Septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Johne's Disease	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pyelo Nephritis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dropsy Generalised	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	1	5	1	—	70	63	37

Total number of animals slaughtered and inspected ... 20,600
Total number of whole carcasses condemned ... 200

Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned

	TUBERCULOSIS				OTHER DISEASES			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Carcass Meat ...	6	4	2	11	7	17	1	25
Offal ...	7	10	2	24	13	17	2	8
	13	15	1	7	21	15	0	5
TOTAL WEIGHT ...	35 Tons 10 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.							

Cysticercus Bovis

<i>No. of animals affected</i>	<i>No. showing head lesions</i>	<i>No. showing heart lesions</i>	<i>No. showing diaphragm lesions</i>	<i>No. affected in other locations</i>
17	17	3	Nil.	Nil.

Number of visits to the Abattoir	...	...	...	...	485
Number of casualties admitted	...	...	...	...	3,474

UN SOUND FOOD

Tins of Meat	...	...	...	...	164
Tins of Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	207
Tins of Fruit	...	...	...	...	368
Tins of Milk	...	...	...	...	162
Tins of Vegetables	...	...	...	...	63
Tins of Fish	...	...	...	...	45
Tins of Soup	...	...	...	...	6
Tins of Jam	...	...	...	...	17
Tins of Baked Beans	...	...	...	...	5
Tins of Peas	...	...	...	...	3
Tins of Strained Carrots	...	...	...	...	5
Jars of Horseradish Sauce	...	...	...	...	23
Jars of Cream	...	...	...	...	6
Jars of Paste	...	...	...	...	108
Packets of Flour	...	...	...	...	44
Packets of Soya Flour	...	...	...	...	24
Packets of Gravy Powder	...	...	...	...	9
Packets of Lemonade Powder	...	...	...	...	3
Packets of Oats	...	...	...	...	2
Packets of Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	1
Boxes of French Cream Slices	...	...	...	...	8
Boxes of Bran Flakes	...	...	...	...	2
Boxes of Cheese	...	...	...	...	20
Quantities of Pies	...	...	...	...	3
Quantities of Chocolate Tea Cakes	...	...	...	...	2
Quantities of Fish	...	...	...	...	2
Quantities of Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	1
Quantities of Meat	...	...	...	...	6
Quantities of Ham	...	...	...	...	2
Quantities of Sausages	...	...	...	...	15
Christmas Puddings...	...	...	...	...	1
Quantities of Bacon	...	...	...	...	1
Quantities of Coconut Ice	...	...	...	...	1

The total weight being : 1 ton 1 cwt. 0 qrs. 26 lbs.

PART 3.

HOUSING

There was a decided change in the housing situation during 1953. The type of case which had given cause for concern in previous years disappeared from the housing list and persons from properties subject to action under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936, had all been re-housed.

Twenty-five houses were inspected and recorded as clearance areas, but the official representations were held over so that their submission could be made to coincide with the completion of the bulk of the new building.

Seventy-nine inspections were made for the purpose of enforcing repair work, fifty-one houses being made fit after the service of informal notices ; six legal notices were served following reports to the Health Committee.

Three houses were closed in accordance with undertakings given by owners under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936, and two houses were closed voluntarily after negotiations with owners.

FORM OF RETURN MADE TO MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>No. persons displaced</i>
(1) <i>Housing Act, 1936</i>		
Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force 	3	7
REPAIRS		
<i>Informal Action</i>		
(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts	51	
<i>Action under Statutory Powers</i>		
(5) <i>Public Health Acts</i>		
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		
(a) by owners 	6	



